

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT MYERS REGULATORY OFFICE 1520 ROYAL PALM SQUARE BOULEVARD, SUITE 310 FORT MYERS, FLORIDA 33919

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Myers Regulatory Division
South Permits Branch/West Permits Section

PUBLIC NOTICE

Permit Application No. SAJ-2003-2467(IP-CDO) SEP 24 2004

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: This District has received an application for a Department of the Army permit pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

APPLICANT: Mr. Raymond and Lourdes Placid

2250 Campestre Terrace Naples, Florida 34119

<u>WATERWAY & LOCATION</u>: The project site is located at the west 165 feet of tract 106, in unit 97, Golden Gate Estates, in Section 29, Township 48 South, Range 26 East, Collier County, Florida.

<u>DIRECTIONS TO SITE:</u> Take US I-75 south to SR 846 (Immokalee Road). Take a right on Wilson Boulevard. Take a left on 20th Avenue NW and the parcel is on the left side of the road.

LATITUDE / LONGITUDE: Latitude 26° 16' 3.5" North, Longitude 81° 36' 15" W

<u>PROPOSED WORK</u>: The applicant is proposing to construct a single-family residence, guesthouse, pool and associated amenities on a 2.5 acres parcel of which 0.78 acres of freshwater wetlands are proposed to be impacted. The applicant has proposed to remove exotic and nuisance vegetation from 3.12 acres of wetlands within Rookery Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve as mitigation for wetland impacts.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Basic: To construct a single-family home.

Overall: To construct a single-family home, guesthouse, pool and associated amenities.

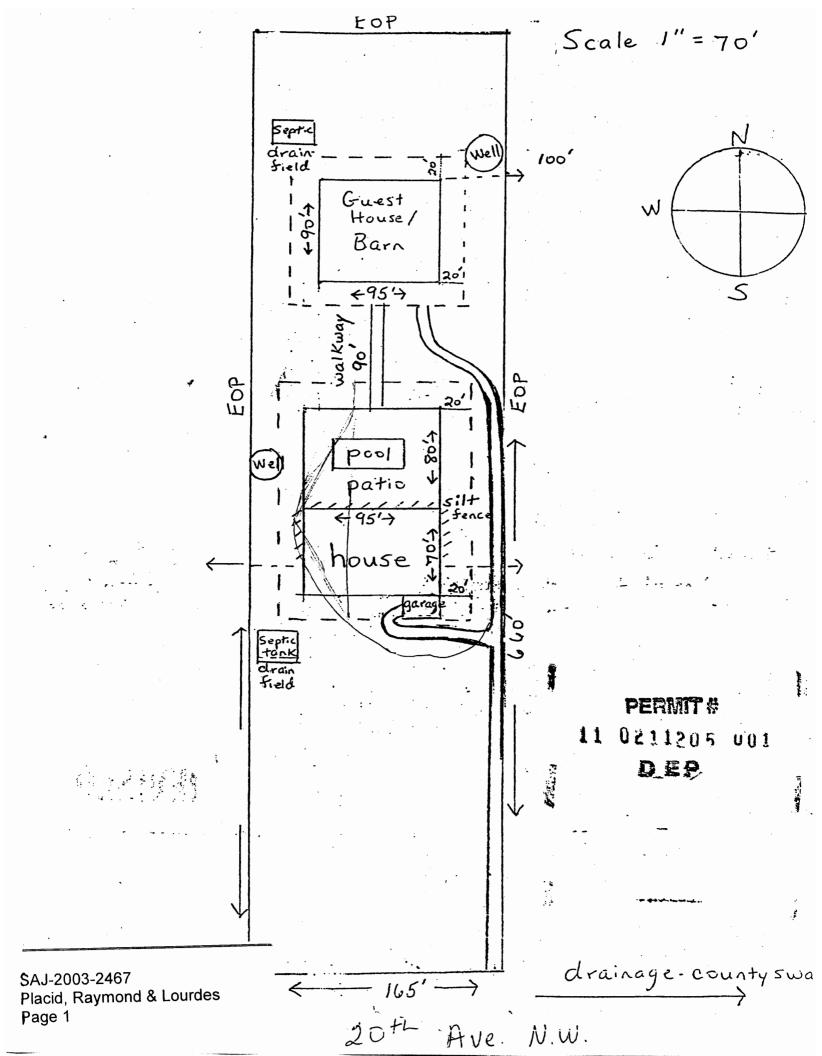
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES: The proposed project site is within the PANTHER consultation area with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) according to the final interim Standard Local Operating Procedures for Endangered Species(SLOPES). The Corps by letter dated December 22, 2003 requested coordination with the USFWS for the Florida Panther as required under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. The USFWS concurred with the Corps determination by letter dated March 4, 2004. The Corps is unaware of any other threatened or endangered species on this project site.

<u>NOTE</u>: This public notice is being issued based on information provided by the applicant. This information has not been verified. The Corps has verified the jurisdictional determination.

<u>AUTHORIZATION FROM OTHER AGENCIES</u>: The Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP) has issued an Environmental Resource Permit on June 6, 2003 for this project. The FDEP permit number is 11-0211205-001.

Comments regarding the application should be submitted in writing to the District Engineer at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Fort Myers Regulatory Office; 1520 Royal Palm Square Boulevard, suite 310; Fort Myers, Florida 33911 within 30 days from the date of this notice.

If you have any questions concerning this application, you may contact Cynthia Ovdenk at the Ft. Myers Regulatory Office, telephone 239-334-1975 x: 24 or by e-mail at: Cynthia.D.Ovdenk@saj02.usace.army.mil.



IMPACT ON NATURAL RESOURCES: Preliminary review of this application indicates that an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required. Coordination with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the National Marine Fisheries Services, and other Federal, State, and local agencies, environmental groups, and concerned citizens generally yields pertinent environmental information that is instrumental in determining the impact the proposed action will have on the natural resources of the area. By means of this notice we are soliciting comments on the potential effects of the project on threatened or endangered species or their habitat.

IMPACT ON CULTURAL RESOURCES: Review of the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places indicates that no registered properties, or properties listed as eligible or inclusion therein, are located at the site of the proposed work. Presently, unknown archeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including cumulative impacts thereof; among these are conservation, economics, esthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, EPA, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act of the criteria established under authority of Section 102(a) of the Marine, Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972. A permit will be granted unless its issuance is found to be contrary to the public interest.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make or deny this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT CONSISTENCY: In Florida, the State approval constitutes compliance with the approved Coastal Zone Management Plan. In Puerto Rico, a Coastal Zone Management Consistency Concurrence is required from the Puerto Rico Planning Board. In the Virgin Islands, the Department of Planning and Natural Resources permit constitutes compliance with approved Coastal Zone Management Plan.

REQUEST FOR PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request a public hearing. The request must be submitted in writing to the District Engineer within the designated comment period of the notice and must state the specific reasons for requesting the public hearing.

Chief, Regulatory Division